

everything he did and everyone he met. Even on his last day of life he was worrying more about his town's future than his own health. His passing is a significant loss not only to his family and friends, but also to the city of Pine Bluff and the people of Arkansas.

I pay tribute to him for his lifetime of accomplishments, and I am deeply grateful for J.C.'s friendship, his devotion to assisting others, and his commitment to the betterment of his community. My thoughts and prayers are with his daughters, Jacquelyn, Rhonda, and Felicia, and all his family, friends, and loved ones.

CONGRATULATING THE INSTITUTE
FOR CUBAN AND CUBAN-AMERICAN
STUDIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, on October 10, 1868, the Cuban people expressed their desire to be free of oppression and their determination to convert this dream into a reality. This "Grito de Yara" was a battle cry heard throughout the world, yet it was the United States who joined forces with Cuban patriots in their struggle for independence.

This served as the catalyst which would forever intertwine the histories of our two countries and would develop into an enduring friendship between our people, stemming from a unity of purpose and shared respect and admiration for our cultures.

Later, the exodus of Cubans fleeing the tyrannical and brutal rule of the Castro dictatorship in search of liberty in the U.S., further reinforced these bonds and enriched the tapestry weaving our two nations together.

The Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies at the University of Miami, inaugurating its permanent home on October 10th, the anniversary of "Grito de Yara", builds upon this relationship by offering courses on Cuban history and culture, producing publications, sponsoring conferences and seminars, and generating original research on specific topics.

Its objectives are to preserve, teach, and disseminate the history and culture of Cuba; provide research and information about U.S. Cuban relations, contemporary Cuba, and about Cuban-Americans; increase awareness and appreciation of Cuba nationally and internationally; and to prepare for change in the island.

In the two years since its creation, the Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies has coordinated a myriad of concerts; film viewings; and museum exhibits. It has held such important seminars as: "Bay of Pigs' 40th Anniversary"; "U.S. Policy Toward Cuba: Continuity and Change"; "Cuba After Castro: Succession, Transition or Chaos"; and the "Czech Republic and Human Rights in Cuba" with His Excellency Alexandr Vondra, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States.

The caliber of the work being conducted by the Institute prompted the Association for the

Study of the Cuban Economy to choose the Institute as its Secretariat, and compelled the U.S. Congress to recommend that one of its seminal endeavors, the Cuba Transition Project, be funded by the Agency for International Development.

The Cuba Transition Project exemplifies the forward-thinking approach and immense value of the Institute. The Project's mission is to help prepare for a transition to democracy in Cuba and for the reconstruction of the island once the post-Castro transition begins in earnest.

Under the leadership of its Founding Director, Dr. Jaime Suchlicki, and of Dr. Andy Gomez, Dean of the School of International Studies, the Institute has earned high praise from leaders in government, business, academia and the arts.

I would like to thank our University president, Dr. Donna Shalala, the Board of Trustees, and all the administrative leadership for their support of the Institute.

Today, as the Institute for Cuban and Cuban-American Studies embarks upon a new chapter in its history and another year of groundbreaking research and memorable activities, I join my voice to those of so many supporters in congratulating the Institute.

I look forward to the continued success of the Institute.

IN MEMORY OF LIEUTENANT
COLONEL KAREN J. WAGNER,
U.S. ARMY, KILLED AT THE PEN-
TAGON ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Mr. Speaker, the events of September 11 shocked America. The horrible acts of terrorism, designed to kill the maximum numbers, woke all of us to the threat of international terrorism. Our borders have been violated, and we are not the same today as we were before that bright, but terrible, Tuesday morning. We have all felt the pangs of discomfort, and the national mood has gone from business as usual to mourning.

None, however, have faced the impact as much as the families of those who lost their lives that morning. One such family of so many lives in my hometown of San Antonio, and they must now lay to rest their precious daughter and sister, whose life and future were cut short at the Pentagon on September 11.

Our Nation will mourn the loss of Lieutenant Colonel Karen J. Wagner, a 17-year veteran of the U.S. Army. On October 5, 2001, she will be buried with full military honors at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery in San Antonio, Texas.

Lieutenant Colonel Wagner began her Army service on February 14, 1984 with a ROTC appointment after graduation from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. She previously received a masters degree in Health Services Administration from Webster University.

Lieutenant Colonel Wagner received her most recent promotion just this past August

and was last assigned to the Medical Personnel Officer, Office of the Army Surgeon General, with duty as the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel at the Pentagon.

Her previous assignments included duties as Adjutant for the 85th Medical Evacuation Hospital at Fort Lee, Virginia; Executive Officer and Company Commander of D Company, 187th Medical Battalion, Fort Sam Houston; Chief, Personnel for the 57th Evacuation Hospital at Wurzburg, Germany; Chief, Personnel Services Branch at Walter Reed Army Medical Center; Personnel Officer assigned to Office of the Army Surgeon General; Staff Officer with Inspector General Office, U.S. Army Medical Command, Fort Sam Houston, Texas; and Executive Officer and Secretary General Staff, Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

Lieutenant Colonel Wagner was born on February 22, 1961, in Kansas, and listed Texas as her home of record. She is survived by her mother of San Antonio, Texas, and two brothers and a sister.

Lieutenant Colonel Wagner was killed because she wore the uniform of our Nation's Army, and, like those who perished at the World Trade Center, simply because she was an American. She stood up for her country and has now paid the ultimate price. We all stand in honor of her and the thousands of others who lost their lives on September 11.

HONORING HARVEY WILLOUGHBY

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor an American who fought bravely for our country during World War II. Harvey Willoughby, a resident of Montrose, Colorado, was a soldier in the 268th Field Artillery Battalion that fought courageously for our country during the war.

Harvey's outfit was unique to the war effort. His battalion was armed with 8-inch guns that seemed more fitting for a battleship. They were capable of firing great distances and hitting targets beyond enemy lines. This gave the Allied forces an advantage that helped them forge forward through German forces. The 268th Field Artillery Battalion landed on the shores of Omaha Beach on August 27, 1944 following the historic D-Day invasion. After their arrival in St. Malo, it took less than three days for the 268th to overwhelm the German and Italian forces that were stationed there. Harvey and his battalion made their way east with their burly equipment and enormous guns fighting their way through Ubachsburg, Aachen and several other cities until finally forcing German troops back across the Rhine. Harvey proudly served his country and earned several citations including the Bronze Star for his service during the war.

Mr. Speaker, Harvey Willoughby fought bravely for our country. As a nation, we are indebted to him for the perseverance and heroism Harvey displayed during World War II. I would like to extend my warmest regards and thanks and the recognition of this Congress to Harvey Willoughby for the monumental sacrifices that he has made in service to our Flag.